



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

12 JANUARY 2017

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US State Department Issues New Travel Warning Against Somalia

(U) Washington - The US Department of State issued a warning to its citizens against travelling to Somalia in an advisory warning that covered land, air, and sea travel. The travel advisory released yesterday cites the presence of al-Shabaab, an al-Qa'ida affiliated group as the main concern and extends to all parts of Somalia including Somaliland and Puntland. The advisory warns against congregating in large groups in public areas especially airports, hotels, shopping areas and government buildings. Finally, the warning advised U.S. citizens of sailing along the coast of Somalia to avoid the risk of pirate attack, despite there not being a successful hijacking of a vessel in over two years.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [U.S. Department of State](#)

(U) Georgia – Focus on Cyber Security at New Training Center

(U) Atlanta - Governor Nathan Deal announced the creation of the Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center during a speech before members of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Tuesday. In late 2016, military officials broke ground on a new cyber command headquarters alongside the National Security Agency (NSA) facilities at Fort Gordon in Augusta. Fort Gordon is home to the Cyber Center of Excellence, a training facility for cyberspace operations.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [11 Atlanta](#)

(U) Illinois – School Closes: 850 with Suspected Norovirus

(U) Chicago – A Chicago high school shut down for a second day yesterday after a suspected outbreak of norovirus sickened some 800 students and 50 staff. The St. Charles East High School is home to about 2,500 students and 100 staff, many of whom reported telltale signs of the virus, which include diarrhea, throwing up, nausea and stomach pain. The high school decided to shut its doors for a second day in accordance with recommendations from the CDC that people with a suspected norovirus infection be symptom free for 48 hours before returning to normal activities. Classes at the school are set to resume today.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [ABC News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Belgium – Two Charged Over Fake Papers in Paris and Brussels Attacks

(U) Charleroi - Belgian authorities have charged two people with supplying fake documents to an Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militant who was involved in the November 2015 attacks in Paris, and who later carried out a suicide bombing on the Brussels metro. Khalid El Bakraoui was involved in planning the attacks in Paris on the evening of 13 November 2015. He then blew himself up in the Brussels metro in March 2016, as part of coordinated attacks that killed 32 people. Belgian police have detained a man and a woman in a house search conducted yesterday. The woman, identified as Meryem E. B., was released under strict conditions. The man, named as Farid K., remains in custody. He is also charged with participating in the activities of an extremist organization.

SOURCE: 12 January 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Israel – Hamas Hacks Israeli Soldiers' Phones

(U) Gaza – Using photos of young women and Hebrew slang, the Palestinian militant group Hamas chatted up dozens of Israeli soldiers online, gaining control of their phone cameras and microphones, the military said yesterday. An officer, who briefed reporters on the scam, said the militant group uncovered no major military secrets in the intelligence-gathering operation. Mainly using Facebook, Hamas used fake online identities and photos of young women, apparently found on the Internet, to lure soldiers in. The officer said most of the soldiers were low-ranking and that Hamas was mostly interested in gathering information about Israeli army maneuvers, forces, and weaponry in the Gaza area. The military discovered the hacking when soldiers began reporting other suspicious online activity on social networks and uncovered dozens of fake identities used by the group to target the soldiers.

SOURCE: 11 January 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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